

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-12
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R 171311Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2786
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 0207

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, SW, UR
SUBJECT: SWEDISH VIEW OF SOVIET PROPOSALS FOR CONSULTATIVE
AGREEMENT

REF: OSLO 193

1. DURING CONVERSATION WITH MFA SOVIET DESK OFFICER ON
JANUARY 15, SUBJECT OF SOVIET DETERMINATION TO FORMALIZE
CONSULTATION PROCESS WITH MORDICS CAME UP. EMBOFFS WERE
TOLD THAT GOS HAS CONSISTENTLY REBUFFED SUCH PROPOSALS,
USUALLY PUT FORWARD BY SOVIET DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ZIMSKOV,
BUT THAT SOVIETS NEVER GIVE UP. GOS REASONING IS THAT A
STRUCTURED PATTERN OF CONSULTATIONS WOULD TEMPT SOVIETS
TO EXPLOIT PROCESS BY REQUESTING CONSULTATIONS WHENEVER
NORDIC OR WORLD DEVELOPMENTS, IN SOVIET VIEW, SO DICTATED.
SOURCE SAID GOS WAS AWARE THAT FORMAL ARRANGEMENTS ARE NOW
IN EFFECT BETWEEN SOVIETS AND FINNS AND SOVIETS AND
DANES. ALSO, THAT NORWEGIANS HAD RECENTLY AGAIN TURNED
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ASIDE ZIMSKOV PROPOSAL FOR CONSULTATIVE ARRANGEMENT
(PARS 5, 10 REFTEL).

2. SWEDISH-SOVIET REVIEW OF BILATERAL RELATIONS WILL,
ACCORDING TO SOURCE, CONTINUE TO BE CARRIED OUT ON AN
AD HOC BASIS. MFA SEC GEN LEIF LEIFLAND, FOR EXAMPLE,
WILL MAKE HIS FIRST VISIT TO MOSCOW IN FEBRUARY, A TRIP

PREVIOUSLY POSTPONED BECAUSE OF THE PRESS OF "OTHER BUSINESS." (LEIFLAND WILL BE DISCUSSING, AMONG OTHER SUBJECTS, DETAILS OF THE VISIT OF SWEDISH KING AND QUEEN AND FOREIGN MINISTER TO MOSCOW IN JUNE 1978.) ZIMSKOV HAS VISITED STOCKHOLM SEVERAL TIMES IN RECENT YEARS FOR CONSULTATIONS BUT IRREGULARLY AND ALWAYS AT SWEDISH "CONVENIENCE."

3. EMBASSY NOTES THAT GOS UNWILLINGNESS TO FORMALIZE BILATERAL REVIEW PROCESS WITH MOSCOW ACCORDS WITH SIMILAR RELUCTANCE TO ACCEDE TO OTHER SOVIET/EASTERN EUROPE DESIRES FOR "JOINT COMMUNIQUE" DESCRIBING THE RESULTS OF OFFICIAL VISITS AND FOR FORMAL CULTURAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS.
KENNEDY-MINOTT

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